Power to neighbouring states by DPP

3504. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to State :

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra is working on revival of Dabhol Power Project;

(b) if so,whether the Central Government has taken any initiative in this regard;

(c) once operationalised, whether there is any proposal to sell surplus power to neighbouring State like Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) Government of Maharashtra (GOM) has taken a decision to allow the Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) to draw power from Phase-I (740 MW) of Dabhol Power Project at an optimum level of 83% at a tariff of about Rs. 2.80/KWH of an interim basis subject to approval of the Maharashtra Electricity Regulatory Commission (MERC) and High Court of Maharashtra which has appointed a receiver for the project, and without prejudice to MSEB/GOM's rights and contentions in the pending arbitration/ judicial and MERC proceedings.

(b) The power Purchase Agreement (PPA) in regard to the Dabhol Power Project was entered into between MSEB and Dabhol Power Company (DPC). Thus, the responsibility to restart Phase-I and complete Phase-II of the Dabhol project lies with the main stakeholders viz. MSEB and DPC as well as the Government of Maharashtra. The Indian Financial Institutions (IFIs) led by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), having substantial stakes in the Dabhol Power Project, have been trying to restructure and revive the Dabhol plant. Government of India has agreed to facilitate any amicable solution to the various issues in order to revive/ restructure the project. Any scheme finalized for revival of the Dabhol project would come as a comprehensive package and would have to resolve complex, legal, financial and technical issues. While this may take time, as a first step, it has been agreed that an interim revival package for restarting Phase-I be worked out by the concerned agencies. It has been decided that the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) would act as the

Operation & Maintenance Contractor for running Phase-I. At the instance of the Government of India (Ministry of Power), a team involving representatives from NTPC, M/s GE India, M/s Bechtel, IDBI, MSEB and Central Electricity Authority carried out a preliminary inspection of the Dabhol power plant from Oct. 28-30, 2002 to ascertain its condition and to work out an action plan for restart of phase-I.

(c) Under the proposed scheme mentioned above, the power generated from Phase-I would be absorbed by MSEB. No decision has been taken and conveyed to the Government of India with regard to off-take of power from phase-II after it is completed.

(d) The question of selling of surplus power (if any), from the Dabhol power project to neighbouring States like Madhya Pradesh, would be decided by the Government of Maharashtra and would depend upon the overall restructuring of the Dabhol Plant and related issues such as quantum of off-take of power by Maharashtra and the final power tariff etc. after completion of phase-II.

On-going Hydel/Thermal Power Projects in the country

†3505. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to State :

(a) the total number of on-going Hydel Power/Thermal Power Projects in the country, statewise;

(b) whether Government are forced to spend five-fold more amount due to non-completion of these projects in time, and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons of the increase in the cost of these projects; and

(d) by when, the projects will be dedicated to the nation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) A statement giving details of ongoing thermal and hydro power projects in the country is given in the enclosed statement-I (*See* below).

(b) to (d) A statement giving details of those ongoing thermal and hydel power projects which are having five fold cost overrun along with the reasons for the cost overruns and their commissioning schedule is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.